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Auth: DDA Memo, 4 Apr
DDA REG. 77/1765

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1765

Date: 3 APR 1978 028

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ DATE:

INFO. Unstated

SUBJECT Economic Information: Auto Parts Factory,
Tientsin

DIST. 15 January 1947

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This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 10 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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History

1. The "Tientsin Auto Parts, Manufacture and Repair Works" was founded in 1937 by a Japanese named SAGASAKI (佐賀崎 隆). He was ordered to construct this factory with Japanese Government money to produce auto parts for the 20,000 Japanese military vehicles which were in North China. Actually, the factory, then called the North China Motor Car Ltd., could supply the parts for only about 5,000 vehicles.
2. The factory was occupied by Nationalist troops for a short while before it was taken over by the Ministry of Communication. Some of the machines were taken away and parts of others were slightly damaged. One third of the machines are rather old, having been made made in 1910 by the Toyota Company in Japan. The rest of the machinery is in fairly good condition.
3. At the end of 1945, this factory was taken over by the Ministry of Communication and turned over to the Highway Administration. The Highway Administration found that if machines were added, a motor tricycle could be manufactured. The company received an order from the Nationalist Government to design a simple and economical car. Designs were started in November 1945; by March 1946 manufacture of the first tricycle began. The first motor tricycle was completed on 29 May 1946 and nine more were completed four months later. Because motor tricycles were well-received by the public, the factory plans to continue the manufacture of these vehicles in addition to the manufacture of auto parts.

Organization

4. The General Office of Auto Parts, Manufacture & Repair Works is directed by JAO Ching-ch'un (饒競群). This general office comes under the jurisdiction of the Highway Administration, Office of the 8th Area (Peiping-Tientsin Area).

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5. Auto Parts Section: near the Chinese Race Course south of Tientsin.
 - a. Superintendent, HUANG Chih (黃植)
 - b. Deputy Superintendent, CH'EN K'uei-sheng (陳慶生)
 - c. Personnel Department.
 - d. Accounting Department.
 - e. General Affairs Department.
 - f. Foundry Shop.
 - g. Machine Shop.
 - h. Battery Shop.
 - i. Plating Shop.
 - j. Assemble Shop.
6. Repair Section: (Garages are near the Auto Parts Section; the service stations are at strategic points on the highways.)
 - a. Superintendent, WANG Pu-ch'en
 - b. Deputy Superintendent, HUANG Yün-ts'ung
 - c. Engineering Department
 - d. Accounting Department.
 - e. General Affairs Department
 - f. Equipment and Supply Department.
 - g. First Repair Garage.
 - h. Second Repair Garage.
 - i. First Service Station.
 - j. Second Service Station.

Production

7. Auto parts: The factory supplies sufficient auto parts for the needs of the Highway Administration. The factory has no die-casting equipment, and all parts are made partly by hand and partly by machine. They can make all the necessary parts except the spark plugs.
8. Fire extinguishers: A portion of the factory manufactures chemical fire extinguishers. This extinguisher is made entirely out of Chinese materials and has an effective range of 50 feet. Each one costs CNC \$70,000 with special discounts on large orders.
9. Repairs: In the Repair Section slight mechanical difficulties and small repairs are made in the service stations. General overhaul and large repair jobs are handled in the garage. A monthly average of forty or fifty vehicles receive a complete overhaul.
10. The Motor Tricycle:
 - a. The drawing of the motor tricycle design was completed after four months study by the engineers. The tricycle was designed with a single cylinder, air cooled engine, and 1103 parts. It is the first Chinese designed motor vehicle, although the Japanese "Tahatze" was the model used as reference.
 - b. Among the ten tricycles completed there are several models such as Jeep, Truck, Coupe, etc.
 - c. This new tricycle develops 9½ HP whereas the Tahatze developed only 7½ HP. This new vehicle uses one gallon of gas for 44½ KM, where the Japanese vehicle used one gallon for 40 KM. Speed is 65KM per hour compared with 40 KM per hour for the Tahatze. The new vehicle is air-cooled instead of water cooled.

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d. Ten experimental motor tricycles have been completed and have been considered successful; so 50 more are being manufactured now which should be ready about the first of 1947. If these vehicles are satisfactory the factory intends to produce 3 vehicles per day.

Labor

11. There are 350 laborers and 45 office employees in the Auto Parts Section and 200 laborers in the Repair Section. One tenth are child laborers who are considered apprentices.
12. Labor union has been organized and is controlled by the Kuomintang, although no party influence is apparent.
13. The factory has a cooperative store where the employees may purchase daily necessities. The factory furnishes enough quarters for about two-thirds of the office employees.

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